GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:279
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS
Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently approved a scheme for setting up of Community Radio Stations by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) which have been given permission to operate Community Radio Stations; State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R.DASMUNSI)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 279 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2008

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has liberalized the Policy for setting up Community Radio Stations in India in December 2006. Under the new policy, 'Non-profit' organisations like civil society and voluntary organizations, State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), ICAR Institutions, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Registered Societies and Autonomous Bodies and Public Trusts registered under Societies Act are eligible for grant of permission for setting up Community Radio Stations in addition to educational institutions which were already eligible. The new policy is aimed at allowing greater participation by the civil society on issues relating to development & social change.

(c) The state-wise details of Non-Governmental Organizations which have been given permission to operate Community Radio Stations are given at Annexure.